Proposed 2006 King County Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Proposed Policy and Text Amendments

November 22, 2005		Text Page 3-1
2006 Public Review Draft		
PK	Sponsor:	

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

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In Chapter Three – Rural Legacy and Natural Resource Lands, on page 3-1, amend text as follows:

King County's Rural Area, including communities such as the Hobart Plateau, Vashon Island, Snoqualmie Valley and Enumclaw Plateau, contains predominantly low-density residential development, farms, forests, watersheds crucial for both fisheries and ((flood eontrol)) flood hazard management, mining areas, small cities and towns, historic sites and buildings, archaeological sites and regionally important recreation areas. These rural uses and activities occur adjacent to and interact with the county's rich agriculture and forestry resources. The location of the Rural Area between the Urban Growth Area and most Resource Lands helps to protect commercial agriculture and timber from incompatible uses.

Effect: The amendment will update the language to use terminology contained in the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Rationale: "Flood control" is a structural approach to reducing the risk from flooding and channel migration. King County is moving away from flood control because of the impact structural flood protection facilities have on salmonid species listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, as well as the long-term costs of maintaining structural flood control facilities. The 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan is furthering flood hazard management, which uses the full range of actions, including, but not limited to public education, acquisition of floodplain lands, construction and maintenance of flood protection facilities, and enactment and enforcement of flood hazard areas regulations.

- 1 -

1 **Text Page** November 22, 2005 3-24 2006 Public Review Draft PKSponsor: 2 AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004: 3 4 In Chapter Three – Rural Legacy and Natural Resource Lands, on page 3-24, amend text as 5 follows: 6 7 **Ensuring Conservation and Productive Use of Natural Resource Lands** 8 9 King County's Natural Resource Lands are those with long-term commercial significance for farming, forestry, and minerals. Products from Natural Resource Lands play an 10 11 important role in our economy by providing jobs and raw materials such as food, wood, and gravel, and by providing links to our cultural heritage. Responsible stewardship of 12 resource lands produces multiple environmental benefits, such as: 13 14 • Stream and salmon protection; • Clean air and water: 15 16 • Wildlife habitat: 17 • Flood ((prevention)) risk reduction; and • Groundwater recharge. 18 19 20 **Effect:** The amendment will update the language to use terminology contained in the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan. 21 22 Rationale: The term "flood prevention" implies that King County has the ability to 23 prevent flooding. Flooding is a natural process. The 2006 King County Flood Hazard 24 Management Plan is the County's plan for reducing the risk to people and property from the natural process of flooding. Therefore the phrase "flood protection" should be changed 25 26 to "flood risk reduction" to make it consistent with the 2006 King County Flood Hazard

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Management Plan.

November 22, 2005		Text Page 3-28
2006 Public Review Draft		
PK	Sponsor:	

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Three – Rural Legacy and Natural Resource Lands, on page 3-28, amend text as follows:

B. Forestry

King County forestlands provide local, regional and national benefits that are basic to our quality of life. In addition to supplying a variety of wood and other products, forests emit oxygen, supply pure water, ((eontrol)) reduce risks from flooding and soil erosion, enhance groundwater recharge, provide habitat for innumerable plant and animal species and offer scenic vistas and recreational opportunities. King County's forests provide employment in wood, paper, recreation, tourism and fishing industries. In sum, properly managed forests are fundamental to a healthy, diverse economy and environment.

Effect: The amendment will update the language to use terminology contained in the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Rationale: The term "control" implies that King County has the ability to control flooding. Flooding is a natural process. The 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan is the County's plan for reducing the risk to people and property from the natural process of flooding. Therefore the term "control" should be changed to "reduce risks from" to make it consistent with the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

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2006 Public Review Draft

Policy R-542

Policy R-542

Sponsor:

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Three – Rural Legacy and Natural Resource Lands, on page 3-34, amend Policy R-542 as follows:

- R-542 Aquatic habitat restoration projects or floodplain restoration projects are allowed on agricultural lands that are unsuitable for direct agricultural production purposes, such as portions of property that have not historically been farmed due to soil conditions or frequent flooding, and which cannot be returned to productivity by drainage maintenance, or where the proposed project would result in a net benefit to agricultural productivity. Agriculture must remain the predominant use in the APDs and these projects shall not reduce the ability to farm in the area. Such projects may only be allowed on agricultural lands when there are no other suitable lands available and the project is supported by landowners who would be impacted by the project and when:
 - a. The project is included in an approved Water Resources Inventory Area Plan, Farm Management Plan, Flood Hazard ((Reduction))

 Management Plan or other functional plan; or
 - b. The project would improve agricultural productivity within the APD.
- **Effect:** The amendment will update the language to use the correct name of the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.
- **Rationale:** The existing policy references the 1993 King County Flood Hazard Reduction Plan. This plan is being replaced by the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

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November 22, 2005		Text Page 4-2
2006 Public Review Draft		
PK	Sponsor:	

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Four – Environment, on page 4-2, amend text as follows:

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One of the most significant environmental issues facing King County is the recent listing of salmonid species under the Endangered Species Act. Wild Pacific salmon have great cultural, economic, recreational and symbolic importance to the Puget Sound region. It is King County's goal to ensure longterm protection of our salmon resources to harvestable levels for today and tomorrow, with the least economic impact possible. Successful restoration and maintenance of healthy salmon populations will require time, money and effort, and collaboration with federal, state, tribal and local governments, as well as businesses, environmental groups, and citizens. To meet this goal, King County and the region will need to consider salmon when making decisions about land use and development, providing facilities and services, maintaining roads, parks, and flood ((eontrol)) protection facilities, and building new capital improvement projects.

Effect: The amendment will update the language to be consistent with King County Code Title 21A.

Rationale: King County Code Title 21A uses the term "flood protection facility" to define the structures that reduce the risk from flooding and channel migration.

1 November 22, 2005 2006 Public Review Draft PKSponsor: 2 AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004: 3 4 In Chapter Four – Environment, on page 4-3, amend Policy E-105 as follows: 5 6 E-105Environmental quality and important ecological functions shall be 7 protected and hazards to health and property shall be minimized through development reviews and implementation of land use plans, 8 9 Water Resource Inventory Area plans, surface water management plans and programs, flood hazard ((reduction)) management plans and 10 park master plans. These plans shall also encourage restoration of 11 critical areas as defined in the Growth Management Act, and include 12 13 an adaptive management approach. 14 County Flood Hazard Management Plan. 15 16 Rationale: The existing policy references the 1993 King County Flood Hazard Reduction

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Effect: The amendment will update the language to use the correct name of the 2006 King

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E-105

Plan. This plan is being replaced by the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

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Text Page 4-8

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AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Four – Environment, on page 4-8, amend text as follows:

King County's water resources include Puget Sound, rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, marine nearshore and receiving waters of Puget Sound, and ground water. These resources provide many beneficial functions, including fish and wildlife habitat, flood and erosion ((eontrol)) reduction, water supply for agricultural, commercial, domestic and industrial use, energy production, transportation, recreational opportunities and scenic beauty.

- **Effect:** The amendment will update the language to use terminology contained in the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.
 - **Rationale:** Flood and erosion are both natural processes that cannot be controlled, but can be reduced and managed. King County is moving away from using the term "flood control" and is using "risk reduction" or "reduction" in the 2006 Flood Hazard Management Plan.

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Policy E-119

2006 Public Review Draft

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AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Four – Environment, on page 4-8, amend Policy E-119 as follows:

E-119

King County shall use incentives, regulations and programs to manage its water resources (Puget Sound, rivers, streams, lakes, freshwater and marine wetlands and ground water) and to protect and enhance their multiple beneficial uses – including fish and wildlife habitat, flood and erosion ((control)) reduction, water quality control and sediment transport, water supply, energy production, transportation, recreational opportunities and scenic beauty. Use of water resources for one purpose should, to the fullest extent practicable, preserve opportunities for other uses.

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Effect: The amendment will update the language that is used in the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

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Rationale: Flood and erosion are both natural processes that cannot be controlled, but can be reduced and managed. King County is moving away from using the term "flood control" and is using "risk reduction" or "reduction" in the 2006 Flood Hazard Management Plan.

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November 22, 2005

Policy E-123

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2 AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Four – Environment, on page 4-9, amend Policy E-123 as follows:

E-123

King County shall protect and should enhance surface waters, including streams, lakes, wetlands and the marine near shore and receiving waters of Puget Sound, on a watershed basis by analyzing water quantity and quality problems and their impacts to beneficial uses, including fish and wildlife habitat and flood and erosion ((eontrol)) reduction. Conditions of and impacts to the downstream receiving marine beaches and waters of Puget Sound shall be included in watershed management efforts. King County shall continue to participate in the Central Puget Sound Water Resource Planning effort.

Effect: The amendment will update the language that is used in the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Rationale: Flood and erosion are both natural processes that cannot be controlled, but can be reduced and managed. King County is moving away from using the term "flood control" and is using "risk reduction" or "reduction" in the 2006 Flood Hazard Management Plan.

1 November 22, 2005 2006 Public Review Draft PKSponsor: 2 AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004: 3 4 In Chapter Four – Environment, on page 4-9, amend Policy E-125 as follows: 5 6 E-125 Responsibility for the costs of watershed planning and project 7 implementation including water quality, flood hazard ((reduction)) 8 management and fisheries habitat protection, should be shared between King County and other jurisdictions within a watershed. 10 11 Hazard Management Plan. 12

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15 16 Effect: The amendment will update the language used in the 2006 King County Flood

Policy

E-125

Rationale: The existing policy uses the term "flood hazard reduction," which is not being used in the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan. The 2006 Flood Hazard Management Plan uses the term "risk reduction" or "flood hazard management" because the hazard itself cannot be reduced, but King County can either reduce the risk from the hazard or we can use management methods to address the hazard.

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Policy E-126

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AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Four – Environment, on page 4-9, amend Policy E-126 as follows:

E-126

Watershed management plans, Water Resource Inventory Area plans, flood hazard ((reduction)) management plans and master drainage plans should apply a tiered system of protection that affords a higher standard of protection for more significant resources. Resource categories should include Regionally Significant Resource Areas (RSRAs), Locally Significant Resource Areas (LSRAs), Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, and remaining resources. Where appropriate, additional designations shall be made as additional information on environmental functions becomes available.

15 16 **Effect:** The amendment will update the language to use the correct name of the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

17 18 19 **Rationale:** The existing policy references the 1993 King County Flood Hazard Reduction Plan. This plan is being replaced by the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

1 November 22, 2005 2006 Public Review Draft PKSponsor: 2 AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004: 3 4 In Chapter Four – Environment, on page 4-14, amend text as follows: 5 6 Development can reduce the floodplain's ability to store and convey floodwaters, thereby 7 increasing the velocity and depth of floodwaters in other areas. In addition, floodplain 8 development often occurs at the expense of important fish and wildlife habitat. King 9 County has adopted the Flood Hazard ((Reduction)) Management Plan to provide guidance for decisions related to land use and ((flood control)) floodplain management activities. 10 11

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Effect: The amendment will update the language to use the correct name of the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Text Page

4-14

Rationale: The existing policy references the 1993 King County Flood Hazard Reduction Plan. This plan is being replaced by the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan. In addition, King County is moving away from using the term "flood control" and is using "risk reduction" or "floodplain management" in the 2006 Flood Hazard Management Plan.

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Policy E-202

2006 Public Review Draft

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Sponsor:

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Four – Environment, on page 4-27, amend Policy E-202 as follows:

E-202

King County has evaluated and will continue to evaluate programs and regulations to determine their effectiveness in contributing to ESA listed species conservation and recovery, and will update and enhance programs and plans where needed including evaluation of the zoning code, the Critical Areas Code, the Shoreline Master Program, the Clearing and Grading Code, the landscaping Code, the Surface Water Design Manual, the flood hazard ((reduction)) mangement plan, regional wastewater services plan, best management practices for vegetation management and use of insecticides, herbicides and fungicides, and best management practices for agricultural lands and forest lands under county authority. King County may amend these regulations, plans and best management practices to enhance their effectiveness in protecting and restoring salmonid habitat, using a variety of resources including best available science as defined in WAC 365-195-905 through 365-195-925 and resource documents developed by the Tri-County salmon conservation coalition and the shared strategy.

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Effect: The amendment will update the language to use the correct name of the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

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Rationale: The existing policy references the 1993 King County Flood Hazard Reduction Plan. This plan is being replaced by the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

November 22, 2005

Policy P-102

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Sponsor:

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Five – Parks, Open Space and Cultural Resources, on page 5-2, amend Policy P-102 as follows:

P-102

King County shall be a regional leader in the provision of a regional open space system of parks, trails, natural areas, working resource lands, and flood hazard ((reduction)) management lands. The regional network of open spaces provides benefits to all county residents including: recreation facilities, conservation of natural and working resource lands, flood hazard ((protection)) management and related programs, and services. Preservation will include wildlife corridors and riparian habitat, as well as open space areas separating urban and rural areas.

Effect: The amendment will update the language to be consistent with the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Rationale: Flooding is a natural hazard. The 2006 Plan is replacing the terms "flood hazard reduction" and "flood hazard protection" and replacing them with "flood hazard management" since King County cannot reduce natural hazards or completely protect people and property, but can manage and reduce the risk from flooding.

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PK Sponsor:

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Five – Parks, Open Space and Cultural Resources, on page 5-5, amend text as follows:

King County has acquired lands and manages facilities along major river and stream systems for the primary purpose of flood plain management and flood hazard ((protection)) management. Major streams and rivers are vital components of the county's open space system, therefore the flood hazard ((reduction)) management lands function as critical links in the county's open space network. King County will continue to maintain flood hazard ((reduction)) management land and facilities within available funding levels. The county will also seek innovative measures for maintaining and improving flood ((protection)) hazard management, reducing maintenance costs, integrating flood ((protection)) hazard management and recreational opportunities, and achieving wildlife habitat protection and salmon recovery.

Effect: The amendment will update the language to be consistent with the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Rationale: The 2006 Plan is replacing the term "flood hazard protection" and replacing it with "flood hazard management" since King County cannot completely protect people and property, but can manage and reduce the risk from flooding. Also, flooding is a natural hazard. The 2006 Flood Hazard Management Plan is eliminating the term "flood hazard reduction" and replacing it with "flood hazard management" because King County cannot actually reduce the natural hazard of flooding, but can reduce the risk to people and property and take measures to manage the natural hazard.

November 22, 2005 2006 Public Review Draft		Text Page 7-15
PK	Sponsor:	

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

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In Chapter Seven – Services, Facilities and Utilities, on page 7-15, amend text as follows:

Both the Washington State Growth Management Act (chapter 36.70A RCW) and Title 86 RCW, Flood Control require interlocal consistency and coordination for effective floodplain management. Counties have been directed to prepare comprehensive floodplain management plans with participation of the cities. Under the King County Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs), comprehensive floodplain management plans, regulations, and programs within all jurisdictions in any of the major river basins in King County must be consistent with the King County Flood Hazard ((Reduction)) Management Plan. As such, King County is a regional service provider for floodplain management.

Effect: The amendment will update the language to use the correct name of the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Rationale: The existing policy references the 1993 King County Flood Hazard Reduction Plan. This plan is being replaced by the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Policy F-265

2006 Public Review Draft

Sponsor:

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Seven – Services, Facilities and Utilities, on page 7-15, amend Policy F-265 as

King County should participate with cities to prepare, update and implement comprehensive flood hazard ((reduction)) management plans that meet or exceed standards established by the National Flood **Insurance Program.**

Effect: The amendment will update the language used in the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Rationale: The existing policy uses the term "flood hazard reduction" but flooding is a natural hazard that cannot be reduced, but can be managed and the risk to people and property can be reduced through flood hazard management. Therefore the phrase "flood hazard reduction" should be changed to "flood hazard management."

Policy F-267

2006 Public Review Draft

Sponsor:

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Seven – Services, Facilities and Utilities, on page 7-15, amend Policy F-267 as

Maintenance of flood protection facilities on the mainstem rivers in King County should reflect a prioritized approach, based upon the Flood Hazard ((Reduction)) Management Plan policies, within available funding levels. Additional funding sources and partnerships in support of maintaining and improving flood protection facilities should be sought whenever possible.

- Effect: The amendment will update the language to use the correct name of the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.
- **Rationale:** The existing policy references the 1993 King County Flood Hazard Reduction Plan. This plan is being replaced by the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management

November 22, 2005

2006 Public Review Draft

PK Sponsor:

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In Chapter Eight – Community Plans, on page 8-20, amend Policy CP-917 as follows:

Policy

CP-917

CP-917 If the long-term solution to flooding problems in the City of Snoqualmie is determined to have basin-wide impacts, these impacts shall be reviewed ((by)) for consistency with the 2006 King County ((flood control management plan team or its equivalent)) Flood Hazard Management Plan policies to identify any additional mitigations which may be required. If the long-term solution to flooding problems is demonstrated to not have basin-wide impacts, it should be implemented as soon as possible and would not require a second, basin-wide, review of impacts and mitigations. (SQP-74)

Effect: The amendment will update the language to use the correct name of the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan and to correct policy drafting language.

Rationale: The existing policy requires a review by the "King County flood hazard management plan team," which is a vague term and fails to correctly identify who is actually required to do the review. Instead, projects should be reviewed for consistency with the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan policies, which is required under RCW 86.12.210 and the Washington State Department of Ecology "Coordination Among Local Governments in the Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Planning Process" guidance document for implementing the state law.

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 November 22, 2005

Text Page G-1

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Sponsor:

AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2004:

In the Glossary, on page G-1, amend text as follows:

Beneficial Uses

"Beneficial uses" include uses of water resources that provide a benefit to the public, including, but not limited to, fish and wildlife habitat, fishing, swimming, transportation, recreation, water supply, ((flood control)) flood hazard management, water quality control, and aesthetic enjoyment.

Effect: The amendment will update the language to use terminology contained in the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Rationale: "Flood control" is a structural approach to reducing the risk from flooding and channel migration. King County is moving away from flood control because of the impact structural flood protection facilities have on salmonid species listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, as well as the long-term costs of maintaining structural flood control facilities. The 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan is furthering floodplain management, which uses the full range of actions, including, but not limited to public education, acquisition of floodplain lands, construction and maintenance of flood protection facilities, and enactment and enforcement of flood hazard areas regulations.

1	November 22, 2005	Text Page G-4
	2006 Public Review Draft	
	PK Sponsor:	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	AMENDMENT TO THE KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLA In the Glossary, on page G-4, amend text as follows: Flood Hazard ((Reduction)) Management Plan The King County Flood Hazard ((Reduction)) Management Plan coprogram and project recommendations that guide floodplains use arthroughout King County.	ontains policies and
0 1	Effect: The amendment will update the language to use the correct County Flood Hazard Management Plan. Patienals: The existing Glossery term references the 1993 King G	_
2 3 4	Rationale: The existing Glossary term references the 1993 King C Reduction Plan. This plan is being replaced by the 2006 King Cour Management Plan.	

November 22, 2005		Text Page G-10
2006 Public Review Dr	aft	
PK	Sponsor:	
In the Glossary, on page Rural Area (See also R The Growth Managemer conserve the rural charac County's Rural Area con industrial development, control)) flood hazard m buildings, archaeologica	E KING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE G-10, amend text as follows: Cural Zoning) Int Act requires that counties designate a cter and quality of the existing rural landations very low-density residential devergarms, forests, watersheds crucial for becausement, mining areas, small cities all sites and regionally important recreated Natural Resource Lands)	a rural area in order to nds in Washington. King elopment, commercial and noth fisheries and ((flood and towns, historic sites and
King County Flood Haza		
channel migration. King	rol" is a structural approach to reducing g County is moving away from flood co on facilities have on salmonid species li	ontrol because of the impact

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Endangered Species Act, as well as the long-term costs of maintaining structural flood

control facilities. The 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan is furthering

protection facilities, and enactment and enforcement of flood hazard areas regulations.

floodplain management, which uses the full range of actions, including, but not limited to public education, acquisition of floodplain lands, construction and maintenance of flood

Date January 3, 2005

Policy CP-933

2006 Public Review Draft

Initials of author: PR

Sponsor:

Status Report – Policy CP-933:

In Chapter Eight—Community Plans, *Section Nine-Snoqualmie Valley*, on page 8-22, Policy CP-933 reads as follows:

CP-933 Commercial and industrial zoned land (including potential-commercial or potential-industrial zoned land) within the City of North Bend's Urban Growth Area (UGA) are planned for nonretail, resource-based and highway-oriented uses. These uses shall be served by public sewers. If by December 31, 2006, the City of North Bend has not created any new wastewater treatment capacity, or has refused to allow connection for such uses, King County shall amend its policies and development regulations to allow wastewater treatment with on-site systems, provided there are no impacts to groundwater.

No change to this policy is recommended.

Rationale: On December 7, 2005 the City of North Bend reported via email from their planning director that the City has recently completed phase II C of their wastewater treatment plant expansion creating an additional 600 Equivalent Residential Units of sewer capacity available for purchase. The City Council has also passed Resolution #1072 in July, 2005 authorizing formation of a utility local improvement district to extend sewer service to the Phase I annexation area – generally from the east City Limits to the east end of the UGA. The City of North Bend believes it has complied with policy CP-933 and there is no need to amend this policy.